

*Max., min. and average measurements:*

|         | <i>polia</i><br>Java, Sumatra, Borneo, Flores,<br>N. Penida, Strait Sunda | <i>polia</i> (?)<br>Kangean Islands | <i>polia</i> (?)<br>Bawean Island | <i>problematica</i> (?)<br>Komodo and Rintja |
|---------|---|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|--|
| Wing:   | $\frac{228-246}{236.44}$  | 230                                 | $\frac{245, 251}{248}$            | $\frac{230-245}{235.33}$                     |
|         |   |                                     | $\frac{230-251}{242}$             |  |
| Tail:   | $\frac{142-151}{146.44}$  | 153                                 | $\frac{155, 160}{157.50}$         | $\frac{135-155}{144.67}$                     |
|         |   |                                     | $\frac{153-160}{156}$             |  |
| Culmen: | $\frac{20.5-27.1}{24}$  | 23                                  | $\frac{21.5, 24}{22.75}$          | $\frac{23.2-29}{25.47}$                      |
|         |   |                                     | $\frac{21.5-24}{22.83}$           |  |

*Wing-tail Index:**polia*: ♂♂ 60.91; ♀♀ 61.99*polia*(?), Kangean Islands: ♂♂ 65.64; ♀♀ 66.52 } ♂♂ 65.01; ♀♀ 64.46*polia*(?), Bawean Island: ♂♂ 63.75; ♀♀ 63.31 }*Weight:*♂♂ *polia*: 500, 515, 521, 535, 540, 545, 545, 570, 585, 598, 600 gr.*polia*(?), Kangean Islands: 410, 467, 475, 475 gr.*polia*(?), Bawean Island: 520, 535 gr.*average:**polia*: 550.36 gr.*polia*(?), Kangean Islands: 456.75 gr. } 480.35 gr.*polia*(?), Bawean Island: 527.50 gr. }♀♀ *polia*: 425, 495, 510, 550 gr.; average: 495 gr.*polia*(?), Kangean Islands: 355, 460 gr.; average: 407.50 gr. } 453.33 gr.*polia*(?), Bawean Island: 545 gr.*References:*

- <sup>1</sup> Junge, G. C. A. The mysterious *Carpophaga vandepolli* Büttikofer; *Zoologische Mededelingen*, 18, 1935, pp. 160-161.
- <sup>2</sup> Hoogerwerf, A. Notes on *Ducula aenea* from Celebes and surrounding islands; *Zoologische Mededelingen*, 30, no. 18, pp. 283-288.
- <sup>3</sup> Stresemann, Erw. On the birds collected by Pierre Poivre in Canton, Manila, India and Madagascar (1751-1756); *Ibis*, 94, 1952, pp. 499-523.
- <sup>4</sup> Mayr, Ernst. The birds of Timor and Sumba; *Bull. Amer. Museum of Nat. History*, 3, 1944-1945, pp. 147-148.
- <sup>5</sup> Rensch, Bernh. Über einige Vogelsammlungen des Buitenzorger Museums von den Kleinen Sunda-Inseln; *Treubia*, 13, 1931, pp. 372-373.

*On a new race of Streptopelia lugens*

by DEREK GOODWIN

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In the course of revising the pigeon collection in the British Museum (Natural History) I examined four males and three females of *Streptopelia lugens* (Rüppell) from Arabia (Wadi Hijla, Suda, Wadi Hulab and Wadi

Bisha) together with a large series from Africa. I agree with Mackworth-Praed and Grant (1952) in considering *S. lugens funebrea*, described from Nairobi, Kenya, inseparable from the nominate form. Dusky Turtle Doves from Arabia are, however, clearly separable from African specimens.

*Streptopelia lugens arabica* subsp. nov.

*Description:* Larger than nominate form. Four males from Arabia have wing lengths of 192 to 195 mm. as against 176 to 186, with an average of 182, for twenty-one African males. Three Arabian females have wing lengths of 188 to 192 mm. The largest wing measurement for an African female is 184 mm.

*Type:* An adult male in the British Museum (Nat. Hist.), registered No. 1937. 4.17.57, was taken by H. St. J. B. Philby at Shaib Hanjur, Upper Wadi Bisha, south-western Arabia on 2nd June 1936. Presumably the bird was in its breeding area, as the collector noted on the label that it had enlarged testes and that another pair were seen courting nearby.

*Measurements:* Wing 193 mm., culmen from skull 22 mm., from feathers 19 mm., tarsus 25 mm., tail 122 mm.

*Distribution:* The highlands of south-western Arabia.

The Arabian specimens are browner and paler in colour than the majority of nominate *lugens* but this may be due in part to wear and bleaching.

*Reference:*

Mackworth-Praed, C. W. and Grant, C. H. B. (1952). *African Handbook of Birds* Ser. 1, Vol. 1: 490.

## Nesting of the Paradise Crow, *Lycocorax pyrrhopterus* (Bonaparte) and the Spangled Drongo, *Dicrurus hottentottus* (Linn.) in the Moluccas

by S. A. PARKER

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*Lycocorax pyrrhopterus*, of which three races are recognised, is confined to the Moluccas; with *Semioptera wallacii* it is the only bird of paradise endemic to this region. Bernstein, writing in 1864, described it as a bird of thick forest, living in the canopy of moderately high trees, and more often heard than seen. It appeared to exist solely on fruit; its call, a short, monotonous, interrupted 'wuhk' or 'wunk' which his collectors likened to the ringing bark of a dog, could be heard especially in the morning and evening. This represents the sum total of our knowledge concerning the habits of this species.

Schoenwetter (1944) recorded three eggs of this species: one collected in 1862 by Bernstein on Halmahera, (measuring 38.9 x 26.7 mm.); one collected in 1865 by the same collector on Obi, (40 x 28.4 mm.), and a third in the Nehrkorn Collection, of uncertain origin, (41 x 29 mm.). The smallest egg is from Halmahera, and this may be explained by the fact that birds from this area belong to the smallest race, *L. p. pyrrhopterus*. The above eggs are said by Schoenwetter (*loc. cit.*) to resemble in markings